

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-6 and 45 were previously pending in this application. By this amendment, claim 1 has been amended. No claims have been added or canceled. As a result, claims 1-6 and 45 are pending for examination with claim 1 being the only independent claim. No new matter has been added.

Applicant requests entry of the Amendment After Final filed on September 7, 2005. To further the prosecution of this application, Applicant also submits an additional clarifying amendment to claim 1. In the Advisory Action dated September 16, 2005, the Examiner stated that even if entered, amended claim 1, as filed in the September 7, 2005 Amendment may still be anticipated by Keegan because "operation" of the pipetting module may include initial assembly. Applicant amended claim 1 to clarify that the term "operation" is *not* intended to include the initial assembly of the pipetting module. In particular, Applicant amended claim 1 to recite that the chamber has a volume which is variable during the *pipetting* operation of the pipette module.

CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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